

REVIEW STAFF

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29 August 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

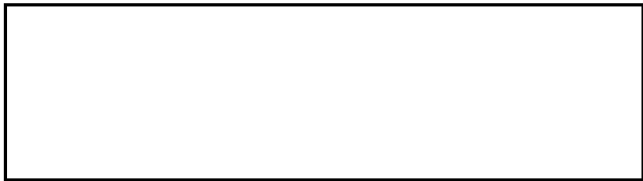
SUBJECT: Meeting with Mr. Gregory Rushford of
the House Select Committee

As requested by the Review Staff, a meeting was arranged on 27 August for Mr. Rushford to interview OCI analysts who had worked on the Spinola Coup, Cyprus Crisis, and the 1973 Arab-Israeli War. At the appointed time Mr. Rushford marched into my office and announced that he would talk with the analysts alone or he would leave. When I invited him to do so, he relented and threatened to call the Committee. I offered him the use of my telephone and he called the Committee to report that I would not let him speak with the analysts alone because I did not trust them. When he found that the first person to be interviewed had been on leave (at home), Mr. Rushford became enraged. He said the committee did not want people recalled from leave and that I would probably leak this to the press as an example of how the House Select Committee was browbeating CIA employees. In a second telephone conversation with some unidentified member of the House Select Committee Staff he repeated this accusation. He also advised me that whereas he had planned to interview only a few people in OCI, now he would interview everyone he could in the Office.

The impasse was finally resolved when the Review Staff requested that I ask each person in Mr. Rushford's presence if they wished to be interviewed alone or in my presence. Two of the analysts, who earlier had indicated that they did not care if I were present, agreed to be interviewed alone. The third interviewee asked that I be present. This interview went smoothly until

the analyst hesitated to supply Mr. Rushford the name of a DDO employee who had told her that he felt the DDO had correctly called the 1973 Arab-Israeli War. She said the person in question had not been in Headquarters at the time of the war and was simply reflecting the views of some of his colleagues. I told Mr. Rushford that I, too, did not think it appropriate to give him the name of the person involved and that if he wanted to interview someone in the DDO on this subject I was certain the Review Staff would make the necessary arrangements. At that point Mr. Rushford said this was a perfect example of why he did not want me to be present at the interviews because analysts would not speak freely in my presence. He said he would be forced to report this incident to the House Select Committee. On that note the interview was closed.

STATINTL


Deputy Director
Current Intelligence

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